cket: 02135C/HG

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: Katsuhiro IWASAKI et al. Applicants

Serial No. : 10/085,797

Filed

: February 28, 2002

For

: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR METAL SMELTING

Art Unit

: 1742

Examiner

: Andrews

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with

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Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the

date noted below

Attorney: Richard S. Barth

Dated: <u>December 17, 2002</u>

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

This is a response to the Office Action of October 23, 2002 (Paper No. 7), which is a Restriction Requirement under 35 USC The term for responding to the Office Action is extended one month by a PETITION FOR EXTENSION filed concomitantly herewith to end on December 23, 2002. Please amend the application as follows.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend renumbered claims 50, 54, 55, 57 to 59 and 62 to 68 to read as follows:

50. (Amended) The apparatus for metal smelting of claim 49, wherein the means to rotate and/or transfer the mixture of raw